(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have distributed only 4.3 percent of total cultivated land since independance; and

(d) what are the reasons for the lethargic implementation of the policy of distributing waste land to landless poor and the action proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) The total estimated wasteland in the country as per an estimate made in the year 1984 is 320.2 million acres, which includes both non-forest degraded area and forest degraded area. It is true that there is incidence of unemployment/ under employment in the Agriculture Sector.

(b) Till so far, a total area of 12.461 million acres of Govt. wasteland has been distributed. Fallow lands include current fallows and fallow lands other than current fallows. The uncultivated Govt. wasteland remains fallow. The current fallow land of private individuals is not available for distribution.

(c) Till so far, a total of 19.74 million acres of land has been distributed in the following manner:—

(1) Ceiling surplus land	4.956 million acres
(2) Bhoodan land	2.323 million acres
(3) Govt. wasteland	12.461 million acres which is approximately 5.87 per cent of the total cultivated area of 336.50 million acres.

(d) Distribution of cultivable Govt. wasteland available with the State Govts. has already been made in major parts. The remaining Govt. wastelands are mainly such, which are not fit for distribution. Such lands are either hilly or located in cold and hot deserts, ravines or on mountains and which cannot be put to any productive usages. The Govt. of India is, however, alive to the situation. Developmental schemes are being undertaken by the National Wasteland Development Board of the Ministry of Rural Development and by the Soil and Water Conservation Division of the Ministry of Agriculture for bringing such land under cultivation. The State Govts. have been requested to distribute such Govt. wasteland which be fit for cultivation or for other allied activities.

Connecting villages with weather roads

3244. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages not connected with all weather roads, State-wise;

(b) what is the percentage of villages not connected by all weather roads to total roads;

(c) what are the reasons for the poor performance of States like Orissa, Uttar Pradesh, Rajastran, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar;

(d) whether any action plan has been prepared to accelerate the pace of progress in connecting village to all weather roads; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) A statement indicating the number of villages not connected with all weather roads, State-wise, in the village population group of 1000 persons and above upto the end of the Seventh Five Year Plan is annexed. (*See* below).

(b) The estimated percentage of non-connectivity of villages under Minimum Needs Programme in the village population group of 1000 to 1500 was 30 per cent upto the Seventh Five Year Plan. Figures for later years are not available.

(c) to (e) The construction of roads, including rural roads, is a State subject under Minimum Needs Programme and funds for the same are provided in the State budget. As this is a State subject no information in this regard is available.

Statement

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Villages not connected with all weather roads in the village population group of 1000 and above upto the Seventh Plan under the Minimum Needs Programme.
1	Andhra Pradesh	2286
2	Arunachal Pradesh	13
3	Assam	40
4	Bihar	6182
5	Goa	..
6	Gujarat	406
7	Haryana	1
8	Himachal Pradesh	70
9	Jammu & Kashmir	174
10	Karnataka	2202
11	Kerala	..
12	Madhya Pradesh	2080
13	Maharashtra	864
14	Manipur	..
15	Meghalaya	..
16	Mizoram	1
17	Nagaland	16
18	Orissa	1034
19	Punjab	..
20	Rajasthan	1147
21	Sikkim	9
22	Tamil Nadu	561
23	Tripura	13
24	Uttar Pradesh	5260
25	West Bengal	402
26	A&N Islands	..
27	Chandigarh	..
28	D&N Haveli	4
29	Daman & Diu	..
30	Delhi	..
31	Lakshadweep	..
32	Pondicherry	..